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Hoke County Gets New Manufacturer, 40 Jobs

State Grant Helps Alpla Inc. Locate in Raeford

Gov. Bev Perdue today announced that Alpla Inc., a global supplier of plastic packaging, is opening a new manufacturing facility in Raeford. The company plans to invest \$7.2 million and create 40 jobs during the next three years. The announcement was made possible in part by a \$120,000 grant from the One North Carolina Fund.

"North Carolina's strong manufacturing sector is vibrant and diverse," Perdue said. "Our state's forward-looking policies, skilled workforce and top business climate continue to attract growing companies of all sizes."

Alpla Inc., based in Austria and with operations in North America, South America, Europe and Asia, provides bottles, caps and other plastic packaging products to clients globally. Alpla recently posted annual sales of more than \$3.2 billion, with more than 10,000 employees worldwide and production facilities in 34 countries. The company, with its U.S. headquarters in Georgia, lists Unilever, Coca-Cola, Proctor & Gamble and Clorox among its clients.

Alpla plans to open a new manufacturing facility, its first in North Carolina, on the Raeford campus of one it major clients, Unilever Corp. The company will manufacture plastic bottles for shampoo, conditioners and body wash products. The 40 new jobs will pay an average